

French company seeks a partner equipped with robust shredders to cut used polyester, nylon or aramid boat sails into flakes for valorisation / recycling

Summary

Profile type

Technology request

Company's country

France

POD reference

TRFR20251023005

Profile status

PUBLISHED

Type of partnership

Commercial agreement with technical assistance

Targeted countries

• World

Contact Person

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Term of validity

23 Oct 2025
23 Oct 2026

Last update

23 Oct 2025

General Information

Short summary

A French SME develops and sells technical boat sails for ocean racing, mainly produced by the petrochemical industry. The SME intends to find second life solution for the sails and seeks a partner interested in recycling them. For example, using a sufficiently robust shredder, the sails could be cut into flakes, to be incorporated into a new product (treadmill, padding, concrete, etc.). A partner specialising in materials recycling is sought under commercial agreement with technical assistance.

Full description

The nautical sector is undergoing major change, with a transformation in usage (collaborative economy, ecological transition, etc.).

The technical sails used for ocean racing are mainly derived from petrochemicals. Sails that are no longer in use are generally stored without any secondary use.

In 2020, the French company embarked on a CSR initiative, with a team that was both aware of the issue and committed to it. The SME then launched a collaborative research and eco-design programme (2021-2025) to develop bio-sourced sails. Finally, in 2022, the company is launching a pilot project to give a second life to used sails. The

aim is to find a sustainable solution for managing the end-of-life of sails in an eco-responsible way, and to reduce the number of sails landfilled or incinerated.

The SME is currently looking for a partner capable of shredding boat sails using very robust shredders, in order to reincorporate the flakes and reuse them as a material to manufacture other products. The sails could also be cut into pieces and used to reinforce surfaces (panel armouring, vehicle armouring).

A partner specialising in recycling plastic materials is being sought for a commercial agreement with technical assistance.

Advantages and innovations

Technical specification or expertise sought

The partner must have a slow shredder capable of shredding all types of boat sails or be able to offer a shredding service. The partner could be a supplier of robust shredders and offer technical tests for shredding sails.

Characteristics of the sails:

-variable sizes from 25 to 300 m².

-variable weights of 50-150 kg

-variable thicknesses of 3 to 5 mm

-fabric types: Hydranet, Dyneema / Black Technora, Maxilite 150, SK 250, double Taffeta laminate, Superkote 75

-fibre types: polyester, polyester+spectra, polyester+aramid, nylon, coated nylon, spectra+aramid

Stage of development

Already on the market

IPR Status

IPR Notes

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**
- **Goal 14: Life Below Water**
- **Goal 13: Climate Action**

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

The partner we are looking for must be a specialist in recycling plastic products and must be able to offer a shredding service. The partner could also offer a shredding machine capable of shredding all types of boat sails.

The partner must have the capacity to store 1 to 2 square metres of used sails each month. The partner must carry out tests to shred boat sails into flakes.

Ideally, the partner will propose a solution for recycling the shredded sail (equestrian floor, surface armouring, product padding, etc.).

Type of partnership

Commercial agreement with technical assistance

Type and size of the partner

• **SME 50 - 249**

• **Big company**

• **SME 11-49**

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **02007005 - Composite materials**
- **03004008 - Plastics and Rubber related to Chemical Technology**
- **10003004 - Recycling, Recovery**
- **02007014 - Plastics, Polymers**

Targeted countries

- **World**

Market keywords

- **08001001 - Plastic fabricators**
- **08001018 - Polymer (plastics) materials**
- **08001006 - Processes for working with plastics**
- **08001005 - Other fabricated plastics**
- **08001004 - Fibre-reinforced (plastic) composites**

Sector groups involved